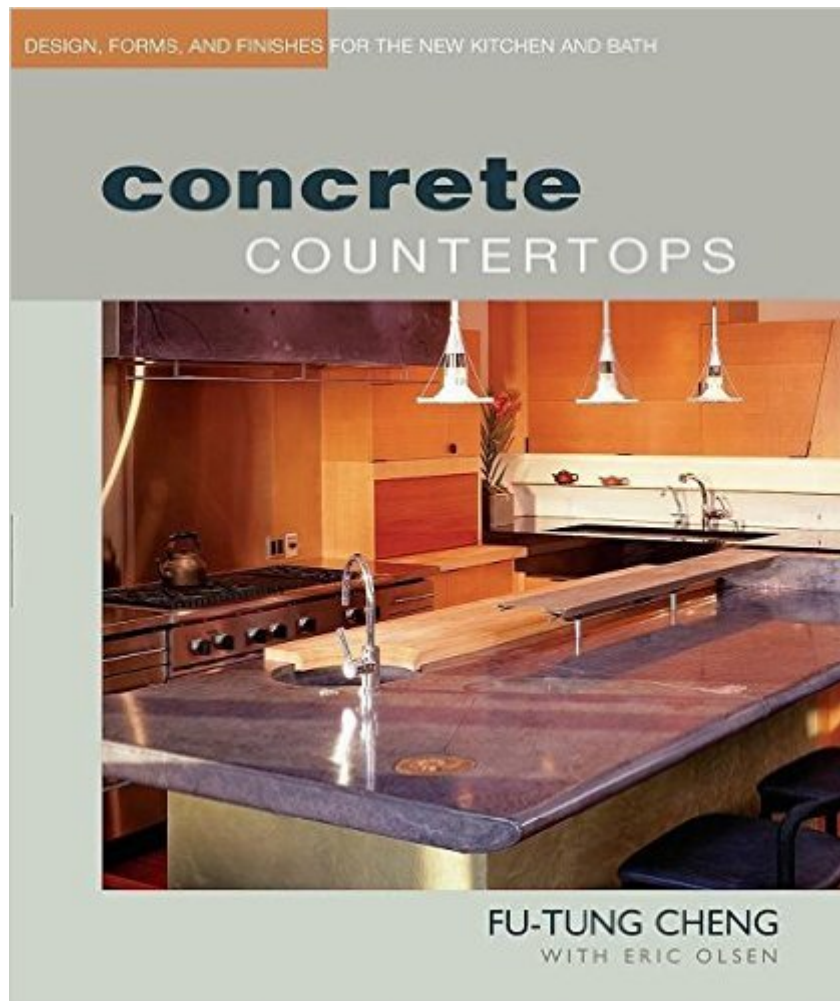


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Concrete Countertops: Design, Forms, And Finishes For The New Kitchen An



Synopsis

This book reinvents the countertop with a single material: concrete. Concrete Countertops is an essential book for architects, homeowners and contractors who want to learn how to design, form, mix, pour, color, trowel, inlay and finish decorative concrete countertops. Homeowners will be inspired by the 350 color photographs that bring this exciting medium to life.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (117 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I'm giving this book 5 stars, since it inspired me to create my countertops in concrete; something I wouldn't have done otherwise. Don't be confused by my comments below, I don't regret buying this book at all. I even plan to put concrete countertops in the next house I build. However, there were quite a few hurdles that had to be overcome. It has been mentioned that the author glossed over quite a few things, and I agree. A few comments: First, contrary to the author's comments, an electric sander is completely inadequate for vibrating the concrete. Buy or rent a professional vibrator unless you want pinholes in your work. Hand "massaging" and rapping the sides with a hammer will not completely eliminate the problem either. I tried all three methods and still ended up with a moderate amount of honeycombing. As the author mentions, this is easily patched, and it even adds character to the work if you use a slightly different color, but be aware: properly vibrating the mix is not nearly as simple as it seems to be in the book. My comments pertain to a mix that has proper slump (i.e., not too wet). Second, the author makes a reference to plastic cabinet legs being

inadequate to support a concrete countertop. That may be accurate for the flimsy off-the-shelf cabinets, but the plastic cabinet legs that are quickly becoming a standard ... are load-rated at 650 pounds EACH. This is more than enough to support a thick concrete countertop (probably even better than a shimmed 2x4 base). Next, I would have to say that I was slightly annoyed at the lack of "recipes" needed to produce some of the stunning work shown in the book's illustrations. Visiting the author's website was also annoying since there it doesn't help much (unless you want to buy one of his pricey kits).

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